

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/735,280

Applicant(s)

MA ET AL.

Examiner.

Art Unit

Duc C. Ho

2665

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 3-24-05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 6, 24, 26, 2-5, 7-14, 25, 15-18, 23, and 19-22. Renumbered 1-26, respectively.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 11 December 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>05-16-05</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER 'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael Cofield on 05-16-05.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 2, line 5, before "determining", insert --- the first processor ---.

Claim 2, line 5, after "header field", insert --- by the first processor ---.

Claim 17, line 7, before "determining", insert --- the first processor ---.

Claim 17, line 7, after "header field", insert --- by the first processor ---.

Claim 19, line 7, before "determining", insert --- the first processor ---.

Claim 19, line 7, after "header field", insert --- by the first processor ---.

Claim 26, line 1, "34" has been changed to --- 24 ---.

Reason for Allowance

2. Regarding claims 1, 6, 17, 18, 23-24, and 26, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a method of operating a network access server, the method comprises a second processor integrated into a line interface card responsible for processing that egress packet, the second

Art Unit: 2665

processor selected from a plurality of forwarding processors in the network access server, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claims 1, and 17.

Regarding claims 2-5, and 19-22, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a method of operating a network access server, the method comprises the steps of maintaining a master routing table at a route switch controller within the network access server; maintaining a distributing routing table at the first processor, the distributing routing table contains entries from the master routing table that allow determination of the appropriate second processor for egress packets; and maintaining a forward routing table at each forwarding processor, the forwarding routing table for a particular forwarding processor containing entries from the master routing table that allow that forwarding processor to process packets for network access sessions assigned to that processor, in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claims 2, and 19.

Regarding claims 7-16, and 25, the prior art fails to teach or suggest a data network access server that comprises a distribution engine to examine header data for data packets received at the egress port and to distribute each such packet to the forwarding engine supporting data communication for the ingress port access session associated with that packet in combination with other limitations, as specified in the independent claims 7, and 15.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Art Unit: 2665

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duc Ho whose telephone number is (571) 272-3147. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm.

If attempt to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu, can be reached on (571) 272-3155.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

5. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Duc Ho', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Duc Ho

05-16-05